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ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR NONINVASIVELY EVALUATING ENDOTHELIAL FUNCTION

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to assessing and measuring endothelial functions. A vasodilating stimulant is provided to a patient to stimulate hemodynamic activity in a selected region of the patient's body. In an embodiment, endothelial function may then be assessed by monitoring a change in a hemodynamic parameter at the selected region and assessing the patient's endothelial function based upon that monitoring. In a further embodiment, endothelial function may then be measured by monitoring a change in blood oxygen content at the selected region and assessing the patient's endothelial function based upon that monitoring. In yet a further embodiment, endothelial function may then be measured by monitoring a change in blood flow rate at the selected region and assessing the patient's endothelial function based upon said monitoring. It is emphasized that this abstract is provided to comply with the rules requiring an abstract which will allow a searcher or other reader to quickly ascertain the subject matter of the technical disclosure. It is submitted with the understanding that it will not be used to interpret or limit the scope or meaning of the claims.

WO 2004/017905 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61K 51/00; A61M 36/14

US CL : 424/9.2

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 424/1.11, 9.1, 9.2

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
 biosis, medline, uspatfull, embase, caplus

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6,332,515 B1 (GOOR et al) 27 November 2001 (27.11.2001), see entire document, especially, abstract; columns 8-9, bridging paragraph; column 14, line 64 through column 19, line 68; columns 21-22, 'Monitoring Procedure'; columns 29-30, 'Continuous non-invasive Blood Pressure Measurements'; column 32, 'Operation for Blood Pressure Measurements'; and column 35, 'Operation for Detecting Endothelial Dysfunction'.	1-20



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

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later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

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